(a) whether Government propose to make amendments in the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 in order to provide adequate compensation to the victims;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether any amendments were made in the said Act during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) A Bill to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923 so as to provide inter-alia for enhancement of the minimum amount of compensation, its rates etc. has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Closure of industrial units in Madhya Pradesh

5145. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the medium and small industrial units in Madhya Pradesh which are lying closed location-wise;

(b) the total investment made in these units; and

(c) the measures being taken by Government to revive these units?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Review of the employees state Insurance Act, 1948

5146. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Employees State Insurance Act enacted in the year 1948 has become outmoded and needs change following the introduction of liberalisation;

(b) if so, the nature of constraints that have come up in the scheme in course of time; and

(c) steps contemplated to remove them?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Latest safety measures in underground mining

5147. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest safety measures have been pressed in service in underground mining;

(b) if so, what will be the impact of such preventive measures on the mishaps in mining;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) what will be the percentage reduction in mishaps if such steps become successful?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) While it is the reponsibility of the mine managements to adopt latest mining technologies leading to improved safety measures, the Directorate General of Mines Safety constantly reviews the same from time to time and suggests further necessary measures required to be adopted. Such improvement of safety measures is an ongoing process and is expected to result in minimising accidents in mines. However, the expected reduction in mishaps is not quantifiable in advance.